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FOR SPRING and FALL 1943

RICHARDS GARDENS

Guide To Better Perennials



One of Our Blocks of One Million Giant Pacific Hybrid Delphinium Plants. Note Size and Blooming Quality of These 1 yr. Field Grown Plants.

**OFFERING AMERICA'S GREATEST VALUES
IN PLANTS FOR YOUR GARDEN**

- » One Year, Field Grown Perennials
- » Field Grown Hardy Phlox
- » Highest Quality Peony Roots

ALL ORDERS ARE PREPAID

RICHARDS GARDENS

Plainwell, Michigan

**THE WORLD'S LARGEST GROWERS OF
ONE-YEAR FIELD GROWN PERENNIALS**

Plant Lovers! Your Garden Dollar Buys More Here!



FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

This year, in order to cooperate in our War effort and conserve paper and labor, we are going to issue but this one catalog.

You will find herein a complete listing and description of the plants we grow as well as a splendid selection of America's finest varieties of Hardy Phlox and Peony roots.

Practically all of them do equally well when planted in either Spring or Fall. Preserve this catalog and use it as a guide for ordering the plants you want this spring. Next fall use it again for your fall planting program.

Remember We Guarantee Satisfaction.

When you stop to consider that you can get a dozen of Richards fine, field grown, 1 yr. perennial plants for about the price you ordinarily expect to pay for three regular field grown plants you get an idea of the tremendous saving you can make by buying our plants.

Remember, these are not flat grown green-house seedlings, but well rooted, healthy, field grown plants.

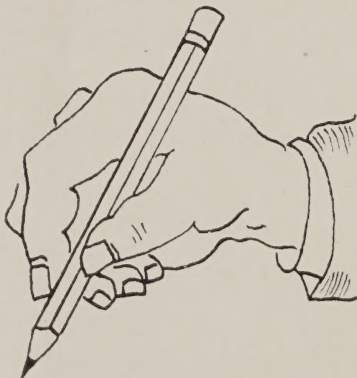
Year after year thousands of satisfied customers order and reorder and tell their friends about the high quality of the plants they have received. Each year we have increased our plant beds and we are now the largest growers of Untransplanted Perennial Plants in the World.

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY

At least one-half dozen plants of any one variety must be ordered. Our low prices will not permit handling orders for less.

SEND US YOUR ORDERS EARLY

Make out your order and send it in to us now while you are thinking of it. We will send all plants prepaid at planting time.



FREE PLANTS! FREE PLANTS!

You may select **ABSOLUTELY FREE** two dozen of any of the plants described in this catalog, retailing at not more than 75c per dozen, with every order for ten dozen or more plants selected from this list. Another reason why your dollar buys more here.

PLEASE NOTE

As this catalog goes to press, (early December), there is No Federal Sales Tax. In case such a tax is levied after this book is printed it will be necessary for all customers to add the amount of same to their orders.

HEAVY ROOTED, ONE-YEAR FIELD GROWN

PERENNIAL PLANTS

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

(Blooming seasons, where given, are approximate and depend on Climate, weather conditions, etc.)

VARIETY


ACHILLEA (YARROW)

FILIPENDULA—PARKER'S VARIETY

An excellent plant for background work, as it grows to a height of 4 or 5 feet. Bright yellow color makes it very showy.

"THE PEARL"

Extremely strong in root growth. Will thrive and produce great masses of pearly white flowers, which come in flat clusters, under even the most difficult conditions. Grows 2 ft. high.



Per Doz.	Half Doz.
.75	.45

.90 .55

AGROSTEMMA (ROSE CAMPION)

CORONARIA ATROSANGUINEA

Through June, July and August these plants are ablaze with deep blood red blooms. Plant six in a group and you will have a real accent spot of garden color.

.75 .45

ALYSSUM (ROCK MADWORT)

ARGENTEUM (GOLD DUST)

Very free flowering and easy to grow. Like a sunny location and well drained soil. Useful for borders and in rock gardens. Very dense foliage, silvery underneath. Clustered heads of bright yellow blooms practically all summer. Height about 18 inches.

.75 .45

SAXATILE COMPACTUM (BASKET OF GOLD)

Excellent plant for the rockery or borders. One of the showiest spring flowers with its large clustered blooms of bright yellow. Grows from 10 to 12 inches high. Very hardy.

.75 .45

ANCHUSA (SEA BUGLOSS)

BARRELIERI

Intense bright blue flowers with white and yellow centers. Starts blooming the middle of May and continues over a long period.

.90 .55

ITALICA DROPMORE (ALKANET)

Grows 5 to 6 feet tall and makes a splendid background plant. Bears loads of true gentian blue flowers in June. Very hardy and sturdy.

.75 .45

MYOSOTIDIFLORA (FORGET-ME-NOT)

A beautiful plant for shady places. Grows from 1½ to 2 feet tall. Foliage is large and keeps its deep green color all summer. In May and June charming dainty blue blooms are borne in great profusion. Plant is compact in growth and always ornamental.

1.10 .65

ANEMONE (PASQUE FLOWER)

PULSATILLA

Grows only about 10 inches high which makes it ideal for rockery or border. Deepest blue bell shaped blooms come very early in spring.

.90 .55

AQUILEGIA (COLUMBINE)

These are among the most beautiful of hardy plants and the most important parts of the hardy perennial garden. Their presence will lighten up even the most formal planting and their colorful blooms are unexcelled for cutting.

CANADENSIS (AMERICAN WILD COLUMBINE)

Flowers extremely early in the spring. Rich old rose blended with yellow. Lovely bedding variety. Grows about 20 inches tall.

.90 .55

CRIMSON STAR

One of the finest and most striking Aquilegias we know of. New and worthy of a place in the finest gardens. Bright Crimson with the inside of the bloom a waxy white. Probably the largest flowering of the Columbines. Good for cutting as blooms keep exceptionally long.

1.50 .85

AQUILEGIA (CONTINUED)

VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
CLEMATIFLORA (SPURLESS) .....	.75	.45
Excellent bedder. Noted for the clear, soft, mixed colors of its abundant blooms.		
COERULEA (ROCKY MOUNTAIN BLUE) .....	.75	.45
Has prolific blooming habit. Beautiful sky blue color.		
COLORADO RAINBOW MIXTURE .....	.75	.45
These will delight you with their vigorous growing habit and profusion of blooms. Colors cover a wide range with interesting variations.		
DOBBIE'S IMPERIAL HYBRIDS .....	.75	.45
Long spurred variety of unequalled color range and sturdy growth. Abundant bloomer.		
LONG SPURRED BLUE SHADES .....	.75	.45
A heavy blooming type with large flowers and extremely long spurs. Exquisite colorings in all shades of blue. A sure sturdy grower.		
LONG SPURRED HYBRIDS .....	.75	.45
A superior cutting variety. Also much used for bedding because of the exceptionally wide range of colors which cover most of the mixed shades. Long spurred and very prolific in blooms.		
LONGISSIMA (LONGEST SPURRED) .....	.90	.55
One of the finest Columbines. Flowers are extra large, of finest quality and their clear yellow color lends charm to any planting.		
MRS. NICHOLLS .....	.75	.45
For richest blue color we recommend this variety. Large long spurred blooms with excellent deep color are borne over a long period.		
MRS. SCOTT ELLIOTT'S HYBRIDS .....	.75	.45
Unquestionably the finest color mixture grown. Flowers are large, have long spurs and the colors cover all shades of lavender, purple, red, white, yellow, blue and pink.		
SILVER QUEEN .....	.75	.45
An excellent variety loved for its silvery white blooms and finely formed florets.		

ARABIS (WHITE ROCK CRESS)

ALPINA .....	.75	.45
A splendid creeping plant which seldom grows over 12 inches high. Bears masses of small white blossoms in early spring. Foliage is very ornamental balance of the year.		

ARTEMISIA (SOUTHERNWOOD)

SILVER KING .....	.75	.45
A striking contrast plant with light silvery gray foliage. Much used in mixed bouquets. May be cut and dried or winter use. We offer well rooted cuttings.		



Hardy Asters provide plenty of flowers for Fall Cutting

ASTERS (MICHAELMAS DAISY)

ALPINUS COLIATH .....	.75	.45
Grows about 15 inches high, making it a lovely border plant. Large blooms of soft blue color are borne profusely from May until late summer.		
ALPINUS MIXED .....	.75	.45
Same description as above but come in Mixed colors of wide range.		
AMELLUS HYBRIDUS .....	.75	.45
Grow about 20 inches high. Excellent as cut flowers. Very free blooming over a long period. Mixed colors will brighten up your garden.		

SPECIAL! HARDY ASTER "HARRINGTON'S PINK"

One of the finest and most popular hardy asters to be introduced in recent years. Gives plenty of bright color to your garden during the late summer and fall season when blooms of most plants are gone.

Good sized flowers of bright clear pink completely cover the large sturdy plant. Hardy and disease free.

Heavy rooted, field grown, transplanted plants—35c each; 3 for \$1.00, postpaid.

AUBRIETIA (PURPLE ROCK CRESS)

VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
Very desirable for rock gardens or for edging or border work. Their graceful, dwarf habit of growth, their delightful coloring and their evergreen foliage make them beloved by all gardeners. Start blooming in April and continue until July.		
DELTOIDES .....	.75	.45
Very showy with its soft lilac colored blooms.		
CRAECA .....	.75	.45
Excellent bedding sort which bears multitudes of rich violet colored blossoms.		
LEICHTLINII .....	.75	.45
Large flowering type which produces a surprising quantity of deep rosy purple blooms.		
ROSEA GRANDIFLORA .....	.75	.45
Dainty, bright pink flowers on six-inch stems.		

SPECIAL! MONARCH MIXED AUBRIETIA

Only by a very fortunate circumstance are we able to offer this superb NEW ENGLISH STRAIN to our friends at these low prices. One of the most glorious color mixtures we've ever seen. Almost every conceivable shade of deep red, violet, rose, lavender, mauve, pink and purple. Make your bed borders a riot of early color with this surprising color mixture. Be sure to order some of these MONARCH MIXED aubrietias.

6 for 55c; 12 for 90c, postpaid.

BELLIS OR ENGLISH DAISIES

One of the loveliest plants for the rock garden or for edging. Grows only 6 inches high yet bears large flowers with stems long enough for cutting. Beautiful for corsages or for bouquets in baby's room.

BELLIS, LONG STEMMED ROSE .....	.75	.45
Blooms of dainty old rose color.		
BELLIS, MONTROSA, DOUBLE WHITE .....	.75	.45
Large double blooms of purest white.		
BELLIS, TUBULOSA, AETNA .....	.75	.45
Rich, satiny, deep red. A real striking beauty.		

BLEEDING HEART (OLD FASHIONED VARIETY)

DICENTRA SPECTABILIS, 35c each	3.25	1.75
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The old fashioned flower which has been a favorite with all generations since our grandmother's day. Deep pink heart shaped flowers hang from the branches of a sturdy plant. Long blooming period. Ornamental foliage.

DICENTRA EXIMA, PLUMY BLEEDING HEART 35c each	3.25	1.75
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Very hardy perennial plant which is nearly ever-blooming. Bears deep rosy pink heart shaped blooms intermittently throughout the summer months. Finely shredded foliage.

CALLIRHOE (POPPY MALLOW)

INVOLUCRATA75	.45
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This is an excellent plant for the rock garden or for wall planting, due to its trailing habit of growth. Fine lacy foliage and bears large, saucer-shaped blooms of bright crimson with white centers. Very showy and desirable for brilliant color spots. Blooms through most of the summer and fall. Grows only 6 in. high.

CAMPANULA (BELLFLOWER)

VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
CALYCANTHEMA, (CUP AND SAUCER) .....	.75	.45
One of the most desirable cut flowers. Very showy in any garden. We offer them in four colors: Blue, Lilac, White, Rose. Your choice.		
MEDIUM, (OLD FAVORITE "CANTERBURY BELLS") .....	.75	.45
A favorite with all flower lovers. A thrilling sight in June and July when its many branches are loaded with deeps bells, the edges of which are softly rolled and fluted. Grows 2 to 3 feet high. We offer five outstanding colors: Blue, Pink, Light Blue, White, and Double and Single Prize Mixture. Your choice.		
PERSICIFOLIA, BLUE .....	.75	.45
The true perennial variety. Grows about 2 feet high. Large blue bell shaped blooms make it attractive for contrast either in beds or in bouquets. Long blooming period.		
PERSICIFOLIA, WHITE .....	.75	.45
Same general description as above but bells are a clear pure white.		

HARDY CARNATION (CARNATION GRENADIN)

Almost a necessity in your garden. These hardy outdoor carnations have unlimited uses. For spots of bright color, for cutting, and for fragrance they are unexcelled. Bloom practically all through the summer. Have dwarf habit of growth.



Actual Size of Hardy
Carnation Blooms

PINK .....	.75	.45
We highly recommend this for clear pink color.		
RED .....	.75	.45
Really brilliant color and very profuse habit of bloom makes this much desired.		
WHITE .....	.75	.45
To complete the color range in your carnation planting be sure to include this one		

CATANANCHE (CUPID'S DART)

COERULEA .....	.75	.45
A beautiful plant either for bedding or for cutting. Grows about 2 ft. high and bears an abundance of blue daisy like flowers through June, July and August. May be cut and dried for use as winter bouquets.		

CENTAUREA (KNAPWEED)

MACROCEPHALA .....	.75	.45
Bright, golden yellow, thistle-like blooms are outstanding in any perennial border. Strong erect stems. Flowers often measure 4 in. across.		

North Dakota. June 17, 1942

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

This is to notify you that all plants in my order of last spring arrived in good condition. The count was strong and with a favorable season they show up well in my garden.

I appreciate the care that was given to the order.—Elmer C. Darling.

Kingfisher, Oklahoma, October 2, 1941

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sirs: Rec'd my order of perennials in fine condition and must say I was more than pleased, as they were the finest plants for the price I have ever seen, and so many extra plants. I was expecting plants about 1½ or 2 inches long and when I got them they looked like small trees. I have ordered plants from many places but yours are the finest I have ever rec'd. Can you fill orders like these any time of the year? And do you handle bulbs or any annuals of any kind? And thanks again for such fine plants.—Hattie Wakeman.

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

CERASTIUM ("SNOW IN SUMMER")

TOMENTOSUM .....	.75	.45
Light silver colored foliage which, when planted in masses, gives the appearance of patches of snow. Dwarf and creeping, it is splendid for an edging plant or for rockwork planting. Small white flowers appear in succession from spring throughout the summer.		

CHELONE (SHELL FLOWER)

BARBATUS COCCINEA .....	.75	.45
One of the easiest plants to grow. Bright scarlet and yellow blooms are carried on 3 ft. stems. Very striking and effective in perennial borders.		

CHEIRANTHUS (SIBERIAN WALLFLOWER)

ALLIONII, GOLDEN BEDDER .....	.75	.45
Bright golden yellow blooms make a rich color display in the rockery or border. Grows only 12 inches high and blooms during May and June.		

HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS

HARDY FALL FLOWERING 'MUMS

ALL ARE EARLY BLOOMING

These beautiful hardy chrysanthemums will begin to bloom in early fall and will provide a wealth and richness of color for your gardens after other plants have finished flowering. All are hardy, easy to grow and are of the best varieties offered by any grower. We offer field grown, transplanted plants which have bloomed for us and which we know will please you. Plant some of these this fall.

ALGONQUIN—Very hardy and very early blooming. Rather dwarf growing plant with extra large, brilliant yellow blooms in profusion.

AUTUMN LIGHTS—Magnificent and striking copper bronze Korean Hybrid. Very hardy and early blooming. Compact, beautiful plant and strong grower.

GLORY OF SEVEN OAKS—Medium growing variety which blooms in early September. Lovelv clear soft yellow flowers make attractive garden display and are excellent for cutting.

JUDITH ANDERSON—A delightful variety for bedding or cutting. Rather dwarf growing and bears a mass of beautiful buttercup yellow Pompon blooms.

MODEL DE PERFECTION—Pure white as driven snow. The best white pompon we know of. Good grower and extra heavy bloomer.

RUTH MARION HATTON—Blooms in September with quantities of bright canary yellow, Pompon type, blooms. Very decorative either in plantings or after cutting.

SYMPHONY—Soft coppery rose which changes to silvery licac as blooms age. Splendid double flowers 3 in. across. Strong 2½ ft. stems. Sure heavy bloomer.

SNOWCLAD—Good sized double blooms of pure white. Strong stems hold flowers erect and clean.

Your choice from the above 8 varieties

25c each; 5 for \$1.00, postpaid.

NAMED VARIETIES OF KOREAN 'MUMS

APOLLO—Deep rich, glowing orange-bronze color. Prolific bloomer and good grower. Strong stems of nice length.

MARS—A beautiful deep blood red. Makes a striking color display in mass plantings. Begins to flower in very early fall and produces heavily. Sturdy and has good stems.

PSYCHE—Choice variety for bouquets. Bright shell-pink blooms appear freely on strong stems. Begins to bloom in early fall and continues over a long season.

SEQUOIA—A Korean Hybrid type which produces gorgeous double blooms in great abundance. Color is a grand shade of mellow amber with interesting variations.

Your Choice of the Above Four Varieties In

Heavy, Field Grown, Transplanted Plants

25c each; 5 for \$1.00, postpaid.

Woodstown, New Jersey, April 12, 1942

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: Plants arrived in fine condition; thank you for the generous count. If the root systems on these plants are any criterion they certainly should grow! I am anticipating fine results.—D. H. Way.

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID

DELPHINIUM (CONTINUED)

	VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
BELLAMOSUM	Identical in habit of growth and characteristics with Belladonna described above but has that rich, deep blue color so much loved in delphiniums.	.75	.45
CHINESE	Graceful habit of growth and has finely cut foliage which makes it useful for garden display. Flower spikes are loosely arranged and have a clear deep blue color, keeping well when cut.	.75	.45
ELATUM HYBRIDUM INDIGO	Noted for having a True Blue color. Beautiful in any planting or for cutting. Good grower.	.75	.45
LAMARTINE	One of the finest cutting varieties. Well formed spikes of very deepest blue flowers, each with a distinct white eye. The real Gentian-blue color is rare in flowers and these will delight you.	.75	.45

GORGEOUSLY COLORED HYBRID DELPHINIUM

Recent introductions in the field of Hybrids have added rare new colors and variations never thought possible in Delphiniums. Individual florets are now double and semi-double in addition to singles. Spikes are almost unbelievably large. Plant some Hybrids this year and you will be thrilled next summer when you see the wonderful blooms produced.

BLACKMORE & LANGDON HYBRIDS	Superb color range which includes all shadings from pale blue through delicate lavender and rose, with variations. Florets run a good per cent double. Very strong grower with strong stems.	.90	.55
WREXHAM STRAIN, HOLLYOCK FLOWERED,	Extremely long, spire-like spikes thickly studded with individual florets of large size. Color variations include all shades from the deepest blues and purples to the delicate pastels in rose, orchid and pale blue. A wonderful grower and producer with very strong stems.	.90	.55



Part of our planting of Giant Pacific Hybrid Delphinium. Note size of these 1 yr. plants. (See Pages 18 and 19)

DIANTHUS (PINKS)

This great family is comprised of many varieties and species. They are worthy of a place in every planting and their bright colors and fragrance make them essential in good floral arrangements.

DIANTHUS BARBATUS (SWEET WILLIAM)

An old fashioned flower of which we never tire. Loads of colorful blooms are produced in June. Excellent for color masses in beds or for cutting. Very hardy and easy to grow. We offer the following varieties:

MIDGET MIXED	Dwarf variety much used for borders. Mixed colors of wide range. Long blooming season.	.75	.45
NEWPORT PINK	Beautiful salmon pink color. Fine for cutting.	.75	.45

KOREAN HYBRIDS (EARLY BLOOMING)

These beautiful 'mums have swept to a high place in the esteem of all gardeners and plant growers. Their clear intense coloring, free blooming habit and the unusual strength of their growth make them essential if you want late summer or fall color in your garden. As far as we know we are the only grower offering them in 1 yr., field grown untransplanted plants. Our low price for these now enables you to have a large planting of them at very little expense. They will come in mixed colors and in single, semi-double and double forms.

6 for 45c; 12 for 75c, postpaid.

Field Grown, Transplanted Plants 20c Ea.: 6 for \$1.10;
12 for only \$2.00, postpaid.

KOREAN 'MUM "AUTUMN GLORY"

One of the striking new introductions in these popular plants. Strong grower with good foliage, very early in blooming season and has a gorgeous bronze shade which will thrill you. We have these in strong 1 yr. field grown plants only.

6 for 65c; 12 for only 1.10. postpaid.

CUSHION 'MUMS

In the few years since these remarkable plants were introduced they have swept the country and have risen to the very peak of popularity with all gardeners from coast to coast. Dwarf in height, hardy colorful and the most prolific bloomers we know of among plants. Begin blooming in July and each plant produces actually hundreds of buds and blooms from then on until the latest fall freezes. Unexcelled for borders or planting in front of shrubs or evergreens. Showy and beautiful in mass plantings. Even one plant alone makes a small flower garden. We offer choice plants which are field grown, transplanted plants now blooming in the fields.

Three Colors. Your Choice: Pink, White, Bronze.
30c each; 7 for \$2.00, postpaid.



Beautiful Pink Cushion 'Mum—Note hundreds of Blooms on 2 yr. plant.

COREOPSIS (TICKSEED)

VARIETY

Per Half
Doz. Doz.

One of the most useful perennials for borders and for cutting. Very easy to grow and produce golden yellow blooms in great profusion throughout the summer.

DOUBLE SUNSET (NEW GOLD)90 .55

A new variety which bears double flowers of good color. Keep exceptionally well when cut.

MAYFIELD GIANTS90 .55

An introduction from Australia. Strong, vigorous growth and better stems recommend it. The flowers are somewhat larger and have broader petals than most varieties. Good yellow color.

DELPHINIUM (PERENNIAL LARKSPUR)

One of the best loved and most popular of the world's perennials. New introductions have widened the colors available and have produced better growth and blooms. Our reputation has been founded on the high quality of the delphiniums we grow. These are all heavy 1 yr., field grown plants which will bloom in your plantings next summer. Be sure to read the instructions for the successful growing of Delphinium and you will have no trouble with the plants.

BELLADONNA, IMPROVED CLIVEN BEAUTY..... .75 .45

Beautifully soft light blue color. A strong grower and heavy bloomer. Superior to the old types of Belladonna; better stems and color.

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

DIANTHUS (CONTINUED)

SCARLET BEAUTY .....	.75	.45
Brightest scarlet color for massed display.		
TURKEY RED .....	.75	.45
Loved for its deep red color. A free bloomer.		

EVERBLOOMING HARDY SWEET WILLIAM

LATIFOLIUS ATROCOCCINEUS FLORA PLENA .....	.90	.55
A beautiful summer bedding variety as it bears brilliant fiery crimson blooms all through the season. Very hardy and a sturdy grower.		

DIANTHUS PLUMARIS (CLOVE PINKS)

New strains of the old fashioned Hardy Pinks have brought this grand flower back into favor. Noted for their exquisite fragrance and free blooming.

CYCLOPS .....	.75	.45
Deep rosy crimson hybrids. Fragrance. Red center.		
DOUBLE MIXED .....	.75	.45
Old fashioned hardy pinks in assorted mixed colors. Hardy and thrive most anywhere.		
HIGHLAND QUEEN, ROSE HYBRIDS .....	.75	.45
One of the best perennial Dianthus offered today. Bright rose colored, fragrant blooms are produced continually from May to November. Ideal for bedding, border or rockery. Red center.		
SPRING BEAUTY .....	.75	.45
Large sized double blooms are typically carnation in form and fragrance. Wide range of mixed color shades.		

DIANTHUS ALLWOODII

ALLWOODII MIXED .....	.75	.45
Beautiful Allwoodii Hybrids in mixed colors with contrasting centers. Grow about 18 inches high with good stems. Colorful and fragrant.		

DIANTHUS LOVELINESS

A truly lovely dianthus. Lacy, curling petals of exquisite orchid pink color. Very fragrant and one of our finest plants for a low border, edging or rockery.
6 for 55c; 12 for 90c, postpaid.

DIANTHUS KNAPPI (SPECIES)

KNAPPI .....	.90	.55
Bright golden yellow blooms on short stems. Foliage is grassy green. Very dwarf and an outstanding variety for edging or rockery.		

DIANTHUS SWEET WIVELSFIELD (SPECIES)

SWEET WIVELSFIELD .....	.75	.45
The true perennial type with single flowers in mixed colors. Fine for mixed bouquets.		

DIGITALIS (FOXGLOVE)

GIANT SHIRLEY HYBRIDS .....	.75	.45
This elegant strain of an old fashioned flower grows to 7 feet high. Ideal for tall colorful backgrounds. The color mixture is superb. We heartily recommend this variety of Foxglove.		

ECHINOPS (GLOBE THISTLE)

RITRO .....	.75	.45
A showy plant with thistle-like foliage and habit of growth. Grows 3 feet tall and in July and August bears great numbers of globular metallic blue flowers. May be cut and dried for colorful winter bouquets.		

EUPHORBIA (FLOWERING SPURGE)

POLYCHROMA .....	.75	.45
Rounded lump of beautiful foliage which throws up 12 inch stems each covered with bright yellow blooms from June to August. Splendid for borders.		

ERYNGIUM (SEA HOLLY)

AMETHYSTINUM .....	.75	.45
Colorful perennial which reaches height of 3 feet and produces quantities of Amethyst Blue flowers during the summer. Good for cutting.		

GAILLARDIA (BLANKET FLOWER)

VARIETY

Per Half
Doz. Doz.

For general hardiness and the profusion with which they produce their colorful blooms, the Gaillardias are in a class by themselves. Plants require only the very simplest care. Blooms keep extremely long after cutting or will make a bright color display in the perennial border.

BURGUNDY75 .45

Brilliant, wine-red flowers of large size on strong lengthy stems. Ideal for cutting. Bloom from June until frost. Showy color for the border.

DAZZLER75 .45

One of the most brilliant of the family. Large flowering type with blooms of bright, golden yellow, centered by a disc of satiny maroon.

GOBLIN, DWARF75 .45

A true dwarf Gaillardia which deserves a place in every garden. Grows 12 to 15 inches high in very compact shape. Foliage practically disappears under the mass of large deep red and gold blooms.

PORTOLA HYBRIDS75 .45

Extremely large flowering strain and noted for the wide range of its colors which vary from reddish-brown to deep gold. Makes colorful bouquets.

TANGERINE90 .55

Particularly showy, large flowering, variety noted for its brilliant tangerine color. For bright masses of color this one is unequalled. Equally good for cutting. Strong, erect stems.

GYPSOPHILA (BABY'S BREATH)

One of the best known perennials and much loved for the delicacy of its blooms. For misty garden beauty or when used in mixed bouquets it has no equal.

PANICULATA75 .45

Dense, spreading, bushy type which reaches a height of 3 feet. Numberless tiny white blooms completely hide the plant during flowering season. May be cut and dried for winter use. Foliage is fine in texture and ornamental in rockery or border.

SNOW FLAKE75 .45

A greatly improved strain noted for its double flowers which appear in great abundance through June and July. A grand cutting variety.

SNOW WHITE, DOUBLE90 .55

Grows only about 2 feet high and produces a mass of small white flowers, mostly double. Much used in the ends of a perennial border for its misty, delicate atmosphere. Good for all bouquet use.



Part of our Hardy Phlox Plantings.
—See pages 23 and 24—

HELIOPSIS (HARDY ZINNIA)

Valuable for cutting and noted for their hardiness and fine color. Good compact growing habit with strong erect stems. Very free flowering.

SCABRA ZINNEAFLORA75 .45

Large, semi-double, golden yellow blooms. Make a wonderful display of color in the garden or when cut for bouquets. Grows 3 feet tall.

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

HELENIUM (HELEN FLOWER OR SNEEZEWORT)

VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
An outstanding perennial which produces hundreds of brightly colored blooms during August and early September. Colors on the same plant will vary with their different stages of development. Beautiful in the garden and equally beautiful for cutting.		
BIGELOVIL .....	.75	.45
Richly colored, golden yellow flowers with dark brown centers. Grows 3 feet high.		
RIVERTON GEM .....	.90	.55
Deep gold suffused with crimson, which changes to solid deep red as blooms age. Grows 3½ feet high and blooms from August until October.		

HELIANTHEMUM (HARDY SUN ROSE)

No plant is more beautiful or colorful for the rock garden, border, or wherever a very low growing plant is desired. Their multitude of brilliant colors and blooms attract attention and add charm wherever used. Glossy green foliage is always attractive and forms background for the flowers.		
MUTABILIS, MIXED .....	.75	.45
Beautiful hybrids of rose, white and yellow.		

HEUCHERA (CORAL BELL)

Plants have rosette-like clumps of attractive foliage from which dainty stems arise to a height of 18 inches. Small bell-like flowers form panicles at the upper part of the stem. Very dainty and attractive in beds or when cut. We offer the ROSEA variety which has a beautiful deep pink color.

Field Crown, Transplanted Plants Only.
35c each; 12 for \$3.50, postpaid.

HIBISCUS (GIANT MALLOW)

Unequalled for tall backgrounds or for specimen plants. Their large leaved, ornamental, foliage is fine in the border. Tall erect canes bear large, bell-shaped blooms often measuring 7 or 8 inches across. Very hardy and easily grown. Grow 4 ft. tall.

MALLOW MARVEL, JUMBO RED, .....	.75	.45
MALLOW MARVEL, PINK, .....	.75	.45

HOLLYHOCKS

No flower has more sentiment or is more closely associated with our memories than the Hollyhock. We have selected the outstanding double varieties listed below as being the best for our customers and we know you will be pleased when they bloom.

APPLEBLOSSOM .....	.75	.45
The beautiful soft pink of appleblossoms.		
IMPERATOR DOUBLE MIXED .....	.90	.55
Large flowers on tall, strong stalks. Unusual color variations including lavender shades as well as pinks, salmons, reds, etc. Fringed outer petals with double rosette centers.		
NEWPORT PINK .....	.75	.45
Rich, shimmering pink blooms on tall stems.		
SCARLET BEAUTY .....	.75	.45
Brilliant scarlet color for bold backgrounds.		

IBERIS (HARDY CANDYTUFT)

These delightful plants have a very distinct place in the rockery or wherever a dwarf plant with evergreen foliage is needed. Very hardy and rarely exceed 8 inches in height. May be used for dwarf flowering hedge. Dense heads of white blooms in early spring.

GIBALTARICA .....	.75	.45
Dwarf, with evergreen foliage. Masses of bloom in early spring. Splendid for edging.		
SEMPERVIRENS .....	.75	.45
Same habits as above but slightly more dwarf.		

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

IRIS KAEMPFERI (ORIENTAL IRIS)

VARIETY

Per Half
Doz. Doz.

Immense flat blooms on tall erect stems. Noted for the variety of their colorings which range from delicate pastels to deepest purple and blue. Long narrow leaves make ornamental clumps of foliage. Plant some of these beautiful Iris in your borders. The size and quality of their blooms will please the most exacting.

KAEMPFERI, MIXED75 .45
A beautiful assortment of colors. Tall growing.

IRIS SIBERICA (SIBERIAN IRIS)

Somewhat like Kaempteri in habit of growth and appearance of blooms but each plant throws up from 15 to 30 stems, each topped by a magnificent bloom. Grow from 3 to 4 feet tall and are fine for background in the perennial border.

SIBERICA, MIXED,75 .45
Mixed colors ranging from violet to deep blue.

VESPER IRIS

Real gems are these beautiful varieties. Star shaped blooms of good size, which close at night and reopen in the morning, are borne on strong 18 in. stems. Colorful and gay. Use them liberally in your plantings. Very hardy—We offer them in mixed pastel shades only.

Nice 2 yr. roots—12 for 80c; 6 for 50c. Postpaid

LATHYRUS LATIFOLIUS (HARDY PERENNIAL SWEET PEA)

A climbing form of Sweet Pea which should be more generally planted in this country. Will quickly cover a trellis, fence or arbor. Bloom continuously from spring until fall. Colorful sweet pea blossoms are fragrant and make dainty cut flowers.

WHITE, PINK, RED, (YOUR CHOICE)75 .45

LAVENDULA (LAVENDER)

VERA 1.10 .65
The real Sweet Lavender used and grown in our grandmothers' day. Grows 18 inches high and bears exquisitely fragrant blue flowers.

Also Field Grown Transplanted Plants, 20c each 2.00 1.10

MUNSTEAD STRAIN 1.10 .65
A dwarf variety which grows in compact form. Same delightful fragrance and blooms as Vera.

LIATRIS (BLAZING STAR OR GAYFEATHER)

One of the taller growing perennials and very useful for perennial bed background. Does well in any type of soil and under adverse moisture conditions.

PYCNOSTACHYA75 .45

Flower stems rise to a height of 6 feet each topped by a foot-long spike of richly colored rosy purple bloom. Blooms during July and August. Excellent for cutting.

SCARIOSA, WHITE

Same general description as above except bloom spikes are pure white. Very showy.

Field Grown Transplanted Plants 25c ea.; 12 for \$2.50, Postpaid.

LILIUM (HARDY LILY)

TENUIFOLIUM 1.10 .65

Bright coral red blooms with oddly recurving petals. Rather dwarf in growth which makes them ideal for bedding. Excellent for bright color in the garden.

LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY (CONVALLARIA)

One of the most familiar and most loved of the perennials. Will grow in shade or on those spots where nothing else seems to grow. Exquisite, waxen white, bell-shaped, blooms hang from 8 to 10 inch stems. Foliage is ornamental all season. Very fragrant. Strong 1 yr. pips, ready for transplanting,

6 for 45c; 12 for 75c, postpaid.

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

LINUM (PERENNIAL HARDY FLAX)

	VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
PERENNE		.75	.45
Very desirable plant for the perennial border. Grows about 2½ feet high, with finely cut, ornamental foliage. From May to August you have a fresh crop of blooms for cutting each morning. Beautiful, clear, light blue color blends well with other flowers for mixed bouquets.			

LUNARIA (HONESTY OR PETER'S PENNY)

BIENNIS ALBA		.75	.45
Much grown for its silvery white seed panicles which are in demand for use in artistic floral arrangements. Very hardy and a good novelty.			

LYCHNIS (CAMPION OR CATCHFLY)

An artistic perennial which has been cultivated for centuries in some parts of the world. Noted for their large, brilliantly colored flower heads and extreme hardness. Ideal to liven up the colors in your border during late summer and early autumn.

CHALCEDONICA (MALTESE CROSS)		.75	.45
Vivid scarlet flowers in flat heads come over a long blooming period. Just the plant to make bright spots of color in your garden. Grows 2½ feet high. Very hardy and easy to grow.			
VISCARIA SPLENDENS		.75	.45
Grows about 18 inches tall. Blooms of the most intense and brilliant pink are produced over a long season. Will brighten any planting.			

MATRICARIA (FEVERFEW)

This splendid plant is much used for low growing beds. Very compact in growth with strongly scented ornamental foliage. Masses of bloom in late summer and early fall. Grows 10 to 15 inches high.

BALL'S DOUBLE WHITE		.75	.45
This is the only fully double flowering, pure white strain. We guarantee 98% true to description and highly recommend this variety.			

MYOSOTIS (FORGET-ME-NOT)

Most people are familiar with these dainty flowering Forget-Me-Nots which bring so much beauty and charm to the spring landscape. Delightful for the rockery, for walk edging or around the pool.

ALPESTRIS		.75	.45
Grows only 12 inches tall and universally loved for its tiny clear blue flowers in early spring.			
SEMPERFLORENS ROSEA		.75	.45
Semi-upright and compact in growth with evergreen foliage. Delicate rose colored blooms are borne in abundance through the early spring.			

Rennselaer, N. Y., May 31, 1942

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sir: Last fall I bought twenty-four pyrethrum from an add in the paper.

They are magnificent this spring. The color range is unusual; that is, so many different shades of red and pink and such long stems. Some have a thirty-inch stem.

So often when one buys a collection the colors are all the same.

I am very pleased with them and will be on the look-out for your advertisement.—Hope L. Smith.

Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, May 4, 1942

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sirs: My plants arrived in excellent condition and I'm well pleased with same.—H. E. Wertz

Ferguson, Missouri, November 16, 1942

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: Thanks to your splendid method of packing and labeling my order arrived in good condition, and I appreciate the many extra plants you so generously included.

They were immediately and carefully planted, and I feel confident they will afford both pleasure and satisfaction next spring and summer.—C. T. Sullivan.

Barnesville, Ohio

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Sirs: Received the perennials and was surprised to see such well rooted plants. I never saw nicer ones—believe I will raise all of them. Thank you.—Mrs. Geo. H. Denney.

NEPETA (GROUND IVY)

MUSSINI .....	.75	.45
Neat, bushy plants with gray-green foliage. Grows only 12 inches high and has about the same spread. Covered with masses of pale lavender-blue flowers in spring and occasional blooms throughout the summer. Foliage and blooms are both scented.		

OENOTHERA (EVENING PRIMROSE)

FRASERI .....	.75	.45
A strong plant with large shiny foliage. Stems arise about 12 to 15 inches. Beautiful lemon-yellow blooms appear in quantity from June until October. Excellent plant for the border or rockery.		

NEW HYBRID ORIENTAL POPPIES

You'll be really surprised and delighted with this glorious color mixture in Oriental Poppies. This is a new Hybrid strain and colors range through the pinks, salmon, orange and red shades. For brilliant and showy color in the border or for bright spots of color among shrubs these free-flowering plants are unsurpassed. We offer strong, field grown, 1 yr., plants in mixed shades only.

6 for 55c; 12 for 90c, postpaid.

PENSTEMON (BEARD TONGUE)

BARBATUS .....	.75	.45
Brightest scarlet and yellow flowers grow on 2 ft. stems. A splendid plant for bright spots of color in a bed or border. Should have a light mulch over winter. Generally hardy but in extreme cold weather when the ground freezes with an excess of moisture they may be injured unless mulched in late fall.		



Sectional View Of Perennial Beds—Millions
Of Plants For Your Home Plantings.

PHYSALIS (GIANT CHINESE LANTERN)

Loved for its brilliant orange-red lantern-like pods which are used for gay winter bouquets. One of the easiest perennials to grow. Do well in any type soil and thrive in dry sunny locations.

FRANCHETTI GIGANTEA .....	.75	.45
Real giant sized lanterns of flashing color are produced on sturdy plants, as many as 30 to the plant. When cut and dried they last indefinitely.		

PLATYCODON (BALLOON FLOWER)

EARLY GIANT BLUE .....	.75	.45
Large flowering and an extra rich blue in color. One of the most showy and unique of garden flowers. Odd balloon-like buds which open into bell shaped blooms. Very hardy and will grow under adverse conditions. Grows 2 feet high.		
GRANDIFLORA BLUE .....	.75	.45
Large, showy, deep blue, blooms form and open throughout the summer. Good plant to have in the perennial border because of its long season of bloom. Grows about 20 inches high.		

POLEMONIUM (JACOB'S LADDER)

	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
VARIETY		
COERULEUM GRANDIFLORA BLUE .....	.75	.45
Very showy and free flowering, bearing masses of large deep blue flowers through May and June. Grows 2 feet high and noted for hardiness.		

PYRETHRUM (PAINTED DAISIES)

No other perennial flower seems to have the general usefulness, beauty, color, hardiness and easy culture that belongs to these gorgeous flowers. Foliage is fernlike and ornamental. Stems are strong and erect. Plants transplant easily and each one produces a liberal number of blooms during the season.

ROBINSON'S HYBRIDS, RED AND SCARLET.90	.55
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A really great new strain. We think so much of it that we have discontinued growing any of the others. Plants are exceptionally strong growers, produce long stems and the flowers are larger than were the older varieties. We cannot adequately describe the superb colorings which appear in this magnificent strain. They run the range from deepest red to brightest scarlet. For color in beds, borders or massing we can say they stand supreme. Use them in bright pottery vases and you'll thrill at the colorfulness of your floral arrangements.

ROBINSONS' HYBRIDS, PINK AND ROSE,90	.55
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Same general description as above except that colorings cover the range from pastel pink to deepest pink and rose. You'll love them.



Another View Of Our Phlox Plantings.

RUDBECKIA (CONE FLOWER)

For tall backgrounds in the hardy perennial border these plants are indispensable. Thrive even in poor soil and produce a wealth of colorful blooms through most of the summer. Excellent for cutting.

HIRTA AUTUMN TINTS75	.45
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A multitude of new Autumn shades. A profuse flowering variety which is very hardy. Stems 3 feet long topped with large star-shaped blooms which are fine in mixed bouquets.

PURPUREA75	.45
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The best known Rudbeckia. Rosy reddish-purple petals with a high cone-shaped center of dark brown. 3 to 4 ft. stems are rugged and withstand high winds. Blooms from July until frost.

SALVIA (MEADOW SAGE)

AZUREA GRANDIFLORA75	.45
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A species from the Rocky Mountains. Stems are 3 to 4 feet high and willowy. During the early Autumn pale blue flowers are produced in almost unbelievable profusion. Ideal for color in the perennial border. Keep well when cut.

SAPONARIA (SOAPWORT)

OCYMOIDES SPLENDENS75	.45
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Trailing vine-like plant which is a necessity in every rockery. From May until July plants are a mass of rosy pink small blossoms.

SCABIOSA (PINCUSHION FLOWER)

VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
Strong and vigorous growing plants with an unusually free blooming habit. Handsome as border plants and especially fine as cut flowers.		
CAUCASICA (BLUE BONNET) .....	.75	.45
Do well in any ordinary garden soil. Stems 18 to 24 inches long topped by charming flowers in a soft lavender shade. In bloom from June to September.		
ISAAC HOUSE HYBRIDS .....	.90	.55
Extra large flowering strain noted for the variations of coloring in its blooms. All shades from light blue and lavender to deep blue appear throughout the blooming season.		

SHASTA DAISY (MOONPENNY)

One of the most widely known and used of all the hardy perennials. Constant improvements and the introduction of new strains have made them one of the most beautiful and sure-to-grow plants that you can have in your garden. Always showy in mass plantings and equally desirable as cut flowers.

ALASKA .....	.75	.45
The best known variety. Improvements in the strain now result in longer, stronger stems and larger flowers. They are exceptionally free flowering, producing blooms of large size with large golden centers, all through the summer and fall. Grows about 2½ feet tall. Vigorous and hardy.		
CONQUEROR .....	.90	.55
A truly giant flowering strain which starts to bloom a little later than Alaska. Grows about 3 feet high and blossoms measure up to 5 inches across. Strong grower and very hardy.		

DIENER'S NEW HYBRID DOUBLE FRINGED WHITE DAISY

If you really want something exceptionally fine in white daisies this new development will be the answer. Medium tall growing, with strong stems, and immense white blooms, most of which are double or semi-double. Some have broad petals and on others the petals are narrowly shredded. A further note of beauty and oddity is added by the attractively fringe edges.

Don't fail to include a few of these in your plant order. They will excite more admiration and comment than any plant in your garden.

6 for 65c; 12 for only 1.10. postpaid.

KING EDWARD VII .....	.75	.45
Flowers of immense size on long graceful stems make this one of the best cutting varieties. Blooms continuously from July to September and produces year after year with little attention.		
WHITE CODDESS .....	.75	.45
A splendid variety for rock garden or border. An extra free blooming strain with large flowers on 18 inch stems. Always retains its semi-dwarf habit. Hardy and easy to grow.		

Fergus Falls, Minn., July 20, 1942

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

I got so tired of people coming in our yard asking "What are those lovely flowers?" that I stuck a sign up—"These are Pacific Hybrid Delphiniums, V. and R., get seedlings from Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich. My only squawk is I have only one "Galahad" out of the six I sent for, that is a beauty this year!—H. C. Featherstone.

Indianapolis, Indiana, June 1, 1942

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: We have received the Pacific Hybrids Delphiniums which you shipped us.

They were in excellent condition and of very fine quality.

Thank you for your prompt attention to our order.—H. T. Smolenski.

Detroit, Mich.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: I received my first order from you today and was much surprised and pleased. They were the finest Phlox plants I ever received and were well packed and looked as though they had just been dug. Thank you.—Mrs. Chas. W. Burton.

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX



The Home of Untransplanted Perennials

A Familiar Landmark to Travelers on U. S. 131—The Red Brick Tavern—The Old Homestead, Recommended by Duncan Hines—Famous For Its Excellent Chicken and Steak Dinners—Just North of Plainwell, About Half Way Between Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids—Visitors are Always Welcome at Any Time.

The World's Finest Delphiniums

The Famous Vetterle and Reine Pacific Hybrids

Richards Gardens enjoy the reputation of not only being America's Largest Growers of untransplanted Perennials, but also of producing some of the finest Pacific Hybrid Delphiniums it is possible to secure.

VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
GALAHAD SERIES	1.25	.70
Clear white flower spikes of enormous size with well spaced flowers. Good branching habit.		
GUINEVERE	1.25	.70
Light pink lavender with white bee.		
SUMMER SKIES	1.25	.70
Clearlest light blue with white bee.		
BLACK KNIGHT	1.25	.70
Darkest royal violet.		
ROUND TABLE	1.25	.70
Mixed shades. Finest.		

This elegant strain of Delphinium is almost beyond description. Flower spikes 3 to 5 feet long closely packed with individual flowers from 2 to 3 inches across; many are double, some semi-double, some single. The plants are resistant to mildew and stems are wiry and strong enough to resist high winds. These plants are strong, well rooted plants from seeds sown last May.

VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
LIGHT BLUE	1.10	.65
DARK BLUE	1.10	.65
GIANT WHITE	1.10	.65
MIXED SHADES	1.10	.65
VIOLET SHADES	1.10	.65

STATICE (GREAT SEA LAVENDER)

	VARIETY	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
LATIFOLIA90	.55
Grows in fine lace-like form with a profusion of misty purplish-blue blossoms. May be cut and dried for winter bouquets. Unexcelled for filler in floral arrangements. Grows 18 inches high.			
Also Field Crown, Transplanted, Plants, 20: ea;		2.00	1.10

STOKESIA (CORNFLOWER ASTER)

Rich green ornamental foliage from which 12 inch stems arise, each topped by an exquisite, asterlike bloom with finely divided petals. Prefer a sheltered location.

CYANEA, BLUE	.....	.75	.45
An excellent cutting variety. Flowers are clear azure-blue in color and begins blooming in July.			



Small Section Of Our Tritoma Beds.

TRITOMA (RED HOT POKER)

PFITZERI A very spectacular plant with foliage resembling that of the Yucca. 24 inch stems, each topped with a large cone-shaped spike of dazzling orange. Make a brilliant color display for the Autumn garden. Field Crown, Transplanted Plants Only 20c each; 6 for \$1.10; 12 for \$2.00, postpaid.

THALICTRUM (MEADOW RUE)

Gracefully growing plants with finely cut foliage. Noted for easy cultivation, seeming to do well in sun or shade.

ADIANTIFOLIUM	.....	.75	.45
Beautiful, finely shredded foliage which resembles the Maidenhair Fern. Tiny yellow flowers completely cover the plant in June. Grows 2 feet high. Very hardy and			

TUNICA (COAT FLOWER)

SAXIFRAGA	.....	.75	.45
Ideal for rockery or dwarf border. Grows only 6 inches high and bears tiny pink flowers in great profusion during most of the summer.			

VALERIANA (GARDEN HELIOTROPE)

COCCINEA RUBRA	.....	.75	.45
One of the most showy of garden flowers. Bright red flower heads are borne in abundance on 12 inch stems all through the summer months. Rich green foliage is ornamental and adds to the beauty of the plant. Unequalled for bold color masses in the border and for flashy bouquets.			

Burley, Idaho,

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sirs: My shipment of plants arrived in fine shape and were put in their permanent homes yesterday. You folks certainly send out splendid seedlings and you are most liberal in your count, for which I am duly grateful. This fall I shall be in the market for the following peonies, and if you stock them I would appreciate a copy of your price list: E. B. Browning, Francis Willard, Mrs. Edward Harding, La-France, Mary Woodbury, Shaylor, Milton Hill, Raoul Dessert, Rosa Bon Heur, and Ball O' Cotton.—Haslett B. Leigh.

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

VERONICA (SPEEDWELL)

VARIETY

Per
Doz. Half
Doz.

An interesting and valuable family of plants because of their ornamental foliage and their long flower spikes, which resemble graceful spires. Thrive in rich soil in full sun.

AMETHYSTINA75 .45
Dwarf form which grows about 1 foot high. Long spikes of clear blue flowers in June and July.

LONGIFOLIA75 .45
Reaches height of about 30 inches and is a beautiful sight in July and August with its long spire-like spikes of deep blue.

PECTINATA—An odd variety which has gray foliage and a creeping habit of growth. Deep rose colored blooms appear in profusion during May. Very showy when in bloom, and also as a foliage plant after blooming season.

Field Grown, Transplanted, Plants, 25c Ea; 5 for \$1.00, postpaid.

VIOLAS (HARDY TUFTED PANSIES)

One of the most popular edging and bedding flowers. In bloom nearly eight months of the year! Loved for their dwarf size, their colorfulness and their free-blooming habit.

APRICOT90 .55
Large blooms of apricot yellow make a bright color display all summer long.

ARKWRIGHT RUBY75 .45
Very free flowering, rich ruby-red color, with satiny sheen. Fragrant and delightful when cut.

BLACK IMP75 .45
Glossy black with bright yellow eye. Showy.

CHANTREYLAND90 .55
Masses of purest apricot blooms all summer.

CORNUTA KING HENRY90 .55
Rich violet-purple with a small yellow eye. Each blossom of this strain is perfectly formed.

JERSEY GEM75 .45
Blooms from April until snow falls. Rich, shimmering violet-blue color, the most exquisite fragrance and extreme hardness make this one of the finest of the Violas.

WALLER FRANKLIN MIXTURE75 .45
Mixture of gay blues and yellows, especially for bedding or colorful edgings. Abundant bloomers.

YUCCA (ADAM'S NEEDLE)

FILAMENTOSA75 .45
Long, bayonet-like leaves are rich green and grow into large clumps. Strong erect stems reach a height of 6 feet and are topped with immense loosely drooping spikes of bell shaped blooms. Striking for use as specimen plants.

SPECIAL! FREE PLANT OFFER

We will send you **FREE** two dozen, your selection of any of the plants described in this catalog, retailing at not more than 75c per dozen, with every order of ten dozen or more selected from this list.

Saginaw, Mich.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: The perennial seedlings I ordered some time ago I received last Monday, and must say they are the best plants I have ever seen. I have them all planted and they sure look swell. I know every plant should grow and I will have many flowers this summer. Many thanks to you for your fine plants.—Fred W. Miller.

Chicago, Illinois

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: The remainder of my order (Baby Phlox) came today. Just want to tell you that we were delighted with all the plants, and feel we were well taken care of, both as to quality and quantity. Everything growing fine.—Mrs. John Bingham

Pine Bluff, Ark.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sirs: Received my order of seedlings from your Gardens about a week ago, and must say I was more than pleased. It is the first time I have ordered from you, and will say, from now on all my plants will come from your gardens. My plants are growing and so healthy.—Mrs. Lillian V. Marino.

Send your orders early, when orders are given early, shipments will be made at proper time.

RICHARDS GARDENS
PANSY PLANTS
GIANT SWISS VARIETIES

These are the giant flowering sorts with size and color of almost unbelievable beauty. Strong growers and prolific bloomers. Foliage thick and luxuriant.

It pays to buy the best when getting Pansy Plants. You will love these Giant Swiss varieties.

SUPER SWISS GIANT MIXED

A veritable rainbow of color. Well balanced shades are ideal for bedding or gay borders

SUPER SWISS MAPLE LEAF, GIANT MIXED

Assorted shades of color. Foliage attractively formed. Giant size blooms

SUPER SWISS BLUE (ULLSWATER)

Rich satiny ultramarine blue. Giant blooms in profusion until late fall

SUPER SWISS CORONATION GOLD

Largest blooms of clear gold with lower petals flushed rich golden orange. A bed of these makes a thrilling spectacle of beauty.

SUPER SWISS PURE WHITE

Large, beautifully shaped blooms of purest white. Ideal for low bouquets or blending with contrasting shades.

SUPER SWISS ALPENGLOW

Richest wine-red coloring. Large blooms in abundance. Ideal for bedding or borders.

SUPER SWISS DWARF MIXTURE

Lively color mixture in extremely dwarf form. They are just the thing for edging along a walk or bed. Large flowers borne continuously give lots of color all through the summer and fall.

YOUR CHOICE OF ABOVE VARIETIES:

75c per dozen; 2 dozen \$1.25 postpaid

**All Orders Accepted Subject To Prior Sale Of Stock
And Our Ability To Supply Same.**

**DON'T MISS THE GIANT FLOWERING
PACIFIC HYBRID DELPHINIUMS**

Atlanta, Georgia.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Sirs: I have been gardening for forty years, but I do not think I ever saw as fine plants as the Dianthus you sent me a short time ago. They came from Michigan to Georgia as fresh as possible, and notwithstanding the extreme heat, all are making a most satisfactory growth. I expect to order more when I have the ground ready.

Mrs. R. F. Gilliam, 30 Rogers St., S. E.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: I'm more than pleased with the quality and size of the plants you sent me recently. Needless to say, I know where to get my perennials from now on. I should have bought some Baby-Breath (Gypsophila) plants, and surely would have, had I realized the size, which could have been set right out in the open this fall. Thought I might have had to pot them and grow for a while. May get some other things this fall.—Jack N. Gordon.

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

HEAVY-ROOTED FIELD GROWN

HARDY PHLOX



One of Our Fields of Hardy Phlox—Early August—
Note blooms on these 1 yr. plants.

BEST OF THE OLD FAVORITES, AND COLORFUL NEW INTRODUCTIONS WILL BLOOM NEXT SUMMER

No flower will lend more color and beauty to your garden than a mass planting of Hardy Phlox. They thrive under average conditions, bloom freely over a long period of time and are equally satisfactory when used in beds or borders.

We are growers of Phlox and have an unusually fine assortment of field grown plants. These are one year plants, the best size for transplanting. All are well rooted and have bloomed in our fields, so we know they are true to name. Phlox will start blooming early in July and continue all through August into September. Remember all of our plants are superpacked, sent prepaid and guaranteed to reach you in good condition.

AETNA

Excellent new variety which is highly resistant to rust.
Tall strong grower and of superb deep scarlet color.

AFRICA

Lustrous deep carmine red with darker eye.

ANNIE LAURIE

One of the best new salmon-reds. Sturdy grower.

B. COMPTE

Rich glossy French purple. Prolific bloomer.

BARON von DEEDUM

Rich Salmon Red with attractive light eye.

BARON von HECHERON

Deep reddish-pink with glowing red eye.

BORDER QUEEN

Dwarf variety particularly good for foreground plantings.
Massive well formed heads. Deep watermelon pink.

BLUSHING BRIDE

Splendid new variety with exceptionally large flower heads on tall erect stems. Deep rosy-pink with red eye.

BRIDESMAID

Beautiful ivory-white blooms with bright red eye.

CAROLINE VANDENBURG

The nearest to blue color to be found among the Phlox.
Large flowering type providing a distinct contrast in color values.

CHEVALIER

One of the best new Phlox. Flashy red.

HARDY PHLOX (CONTINUED)

COUNT ZEPPELIN

Very strong grower and free flowering. Large white blooms with vivid bright red eye.

DAILY SKETCH

One of the best introductions of recent years. Immense flowers of light salmon pink with carmine eye. One of the tallest growing Phlox

E. I. FARRINGTON

A Phlox of distinctive beauty. Flower trusses are extremely large and color is a delightful salmon shade with slightly darker eye.

ETHEL PRITCHARD

Rich bluish-violet which blends well with other colors.

EUROPA

A well proven variety and still popular because of its good growth and sure blooming qualities. Good sized white blooms with blended red eye.

GEORGE STIPP

A strong grower with excellent foliage. A truly outstanding Phlox of glowing salmon-pink.

HAUPTMANN KOEHL

A great favorite since its introduction a few years ago. Rich color which does not fade easily.

LEO SCHLAGETER

One of the brightest and flashiest of all red Phlox. Sturdy grower and very free bloomer.

LILLIAN

One of the most distinctive new Phlox ever introduced. Unusually large trusses of charming soft pink.

MAID MARION

Shining pink-lavender with silvery eye. Beautiful for pastel shading in beds or for cutting.

MIA RUYS

A dwarf variety which bears large heads of pure white.

MORGENROOD

The glorious rosy red of sunrise. Very striking for colorful beds. Excellent as cut flowers.

MRS. JENKINS

Beautiful clear pearly white.

NANA COREULA

Deep lavender. Good grower. Dwarf.

PAINTED LADY

Much loved for its shimmering silvery-pink color and deep red eye. Tall vigorous grower.

R. P. STRUTHERS

One of the older varieties but still one of the flashiest and best. Especially good in mass planting because of its bright coral-red blooms.

RHEINLANDER

An old favorite. Tall growing, salmon-pink. Red eye.

ROSEA SUPERBA

Light pink with red eye. Large florets.

ROSENBURG

Rich French purple. Prolific grower.

ROYAL PURPLE

Large flower heads of rich satiny purple on strong stems. Individual florets are large with uniformly good color. Excellent dark green foliage.

SALMON GLOW

Teamed with Daily Sketch this variety has swept to a high place in the phlox world. Its robust growth and blooms of deep salmon recommend it to all.

STARLIGHT

Beautiful pastel lavender orchid color with white center marking. Large flower heads and florets. Strong grower.

THOR

Deep salmon-pink with a peculiar scarlet color tone. A prolific bloomer and strong grower.

VON LASSBURG

One of the most colorful and sturdy growing white phlox. Medium growing. Good bedder.

VON HOCHBERG

Another one of the older varieties, but it has never been surpassed for deep blood-red color and assured prolific blooming quality. Wonderful for bedding or for massed color spots.

WM. KESSELRING

One of the better new phlox. Rosy purple with distinctive eye.

YOUR CHOICE OF ABOVE VARIETIES

**EACH LABELLED, WELL PACKED, AND
GUARANTEED TO ARRIVE IN GOOD CONDITION.**

20c ea.; or 12 for \$2.00 postpaid

8 Phlox, All Labelled, Our Selection \$1.00

SPECIAL! THREE OF THE NEWEST PHLOX INTRODUCTIONS!

We offer our customers three of the very newest introductions in Hardy Phlox. We have seen these beautiful creations in bloom and we cannot recommend them too highly. All are extremely vigorous growers with good strong stems and are resistant to rust. Flower heads are immense in size with some really surprising individual florets. Try these newest Phlox and you'll be delighted when they bloom next summer. Most growers would ask at least 50c each for these but note Richards' money-saving price.

CHIEFTAIN—Brilliant red. Enormous flower heads.

FLASH—Rich carmine-rose with orange-scarlet center.

PRIME MINISTER—Clear pure white, brilliant red center.

Your choice only 30c each; 4 for \$1.00, postpaid.

SPECIAL! Baby Phlox

These are well established crown or root cuttings which will grow in your gardens and produce some blooms this first year. Make Your Garden Dollars Buy More by ordering some of these fine Baby Phlox. Due to the fact that these are grown in cold frames outdoors they will not be available until May 20th. We cannot accept orders for them after June 15th, so hurry in your order and plants will be sent to you parcel post prepaid as soon as they are ready to transplant.

AETNA—Tall strong grower and of superb deep scarlet color.

AFRICA—Lustrous deep carmine red with darker eye.

ANNIE LAURIE—One of the best new salmon-reds.

B. COMPTE—Rich glossy French purple. Prolific bloomer.

BARON von DEEDUM—Salmon Red with attractive light eye.

BARON von HECHERON—Deep reddish-pink with glowing red eye.

BLUE BOY—Rich purple-blue.

BLUSHING BRIDE—Deep rosy-pink with red eye.

BORDER QUEEN—Massive well formed heads. Deep watermelon pink.

BRIDESMAID—Beautiful ivory white blooms with bright red eye.

CAROLINE VANDENBURG—Nearest to blue color to be found in Phlox.

CHIEFTAIN—Brilliant red. Enormous flower heads.

CHEVALIER—One of the best new Phlox. Flashy red.

COUNT ZEPPELIN—Large white blooms with vivid bright eye.

DAILY SKETCH—Large flowers of light salmon pink with carmine eye.

E. I. FARRINGTON—Color a delightful salmon shade with darker eye.

ENCHANTRESS—Large deep pink.

ETHEL PRITCHARD—Blush-violet which blends well with other colors.

EVA FORESTER—Giant bloms of salmon rose.

FLASH—Rich carmine-rose with orange-scarlet center.

GEORGE STIPP—A truly outstanding Phlox of glowing salmon-pink.

HAUPTMAIN KOEHL—Deep rosy-red-unfading.

LEO SCHLAGETER—One of the brightest and flashiest of all red Phlox.

LILLIAN—Unusually large trusses of charming soft pink.

MAID MARION—Shining pink-lavender with silvery eye.

MIA RUYS—A dwarf variety with large heads of pure white.

MOONLIGHT DREAM—Semi-dwarf white.

MORGENROD—The glorious rosy red of sunrise.

MRS. JENKINS—Beautiful clear pearly white.

NANA COREULA—Lavender with pink tinge. Good grower.

PAINTED LADY—Loved for its silvery-pink color and deep red eye.

PRIME MINISTER—Clear pure white, brilliant red center.

RHEINLANDER—Tall growing, salmon-pink. Red eye.

ROSEA SUPERBA—Light pink with red eye. Large florets.

ROSENBURG—Rich French purple. Prolific grower.

ROYAL PURPLE—Large flower heads of satiny purple on strong stems.

SALMON GLOW—Robust growth and blooms of deep salmon.

STARLIGHT—Orchid with white eye.

THOR—Deep salmon-pink with a peculiar scarlet color tone.

TIGRESS—Brilliant new coral-salmon shade with golden sheen.

VON HOCHBERG—Deep blood-red color and assured blooming quality.

VON LASSBURG—One of the most colorful, sturdy growing white phlox.

WM. KESSELRING—Rosy purple with distinctive eye.

YOUR CHOICE OF ABOVE VARIETIES

6 of one kind 60c; postpaid

12 of one kind \$1.00; postpaid

15 Mixed, Unlabelled, Our Choice, \$1.00

RICHARDS GARDENS

"OLD HOMESTEAD BRAND"

PEONIES

GROWERS OF PEONIES FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS—

We want to say just a word about the quality of Richards' Peonies. We send out, as always, nice clean roots, three to five eye divisions. All from one, two and three year old clumps. You will find no clubby stock in our peonies and we guarantee them true to name.

Where ten of a kind are ordered, an extra root will be added.

We are giving the rating on the peonies and you will note that there are many in this list that rate nine or better and only in one or two instances are they below eight. We are very proud of this list and know you will be pleased with the offerings we make this year.

REMEMBER ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

OUR GUARANTEE

We exercise great care in keeping our varieties true to name and will replace any variety that proves untrue two years from date of sale.



View of one of our 2 yr. Peony Blocks.
Note profusion of bloom on these 2 yr. plants.

Peonies To Color

We have, every year, an accumulation of peonies to color but unnamed. These are from our regular stock, and you might get a \$3.00 peony among these mixed varieties. **White, 25c each; Pink, 25c each and Red, 25c each.** Not less than five of these will be filled on an order, or we will furnish

SIX RED MIXED
SIX PINK MIXED
SIX WHITE MIXED



FOR

\$3⁵⁰

POSTPAID.

**BE SURE TO READ OUR SPECIAL PEONY
OFFERS—ON PAGE THIRTY-TWO**

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING DOUBLE VARIETIES

	VARIETY	Rating.	Ea.
A. M. SLOCUM	Large; double; late. Light rosepink with lighter center. A dwarf free blooming type.	9.0	1.00
ALBA FLORA	Large; double; late midseason. White with creamy tinge on incurving petals.	7.6	.40
ALBERT CROUSSE	Double, light rose pink with creamy tone. A profuse bloomer. Strong stems and good foliage, late.	8.6	.60
ALICE HARDING	Large; double; midseason. Outer petals are a delicate flesh-pink around a creamy-white center. Strong stems and good foliage.	9.5	2.00
ALSACE LORRAINE	Double; large; late midseason. Pure white tinted with cream and buff in center.	8.8	.60
ASA GRAY	Delicate pink, some years slightly mottled. Very free-flowering and very fragrant. Fine for cutting. Mid-season.	8.1	.25
AUGUSTE DESSERT	Large; double, midseason. Color an intense pink; petals edged with silver. Good grower.	8.7	.50
AVALANCHE	One of the very best of white peonies, late and a very prolific bloomer. A fine cut flower.	8.7	.40
BARONESS SCHROEDER	Large; double; midseason. Flesh-white tinted creamy pink.	9.0	.40
BOULE DE NEIGE	Large; double; early midseason. White with creamy blend and crimson flecks on outer guard peals. Very free bloomer. Good stems.	8.0	.40
BRAND'S MAGNIFICENT	Large double; late midseason. Rich dark crimson with purplish cast. Prolific bloomer.	8.2	.50
CHERRY HILL	Very early red medium size. Good bloomer.	8.6	.60
CHESTINE GOWDY	Large; double; late. Light rose with some outer petals edged with red. Strong grower and free blooming.	8.4	.50
CLAIRE DUBOIS	Very large; double; late. Bright rose-pink with enormous buds and flowers. Strong stems make this a good cutting variety.	8.7	.60
CORONATION	Very large; double; late midseason. Beautifully shaped bloom with rose pink outer petals and deeper colored center. Free blooming.	8.5	.50
COURONNE D'OR	Double type. Large, late. Color, white. Good foliage.	8.1	.50
DUCHESSE DE NEMOURS	Large; double; early. White guard petals with center of canary-yellow. Very free blooming.	8.1	.40
E. C. HILL	Large; double; midseason. Deep rose. Good grower and free blooming.	7.1	.40
EDITH FORREST	Large; double; midseason. A good pink which flowers heavily and is especially effective in massed border plantings.		.40
EDULIS SUPERBA	This is one of the few peonies which we have that is rated under eight, and there is no reason why Edulis Superba should carry this low rating as it is really a good peony, early, free-flowering, and a fine cut flower in the dark pink class.	7.6	.40
ELWOOD PLEAS	Large, late pink peony on the order of Therese.	8.7	.40

We will include free 1 peony, our choice, with every order for \$2 worth or more from this list.

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

PEONIES (CONTINUED)

	VARIETY	Rating.	Ea.
EUGENE BICOT	.....	8.3	.50
	Large, late crimson peony.		
EUGENIE VERDIER	.....	8.6	.60
	Double type. Large, late. Color, rose-pink. Good foliage and tall growing.		
FELIX CROUSSE	.....	8.4	.40
	Late, midseason red peony, one of the Big Four of peonies, and probably the largest seller of all red peonies. Sure bloomer, always opens well.		
FESTIVA MAXIMA	.....	9.3	.40
	Very large; double; early. White with crimson flecks. Strong stems and free flowering.		



Festive Maxima blooms. One of the finest White Peonies.

GEORGIANA SHAYLOR	.....	8.9	.75
	Very large; double; late midseason. Light rose-pink with odd crimson streaked petals around center. Free blooming		
GIGANTEA	.....	8.2	.40
	Very large; double; early. Clear rose-pink with silver tipped petals. Grows quite tall and slightly sprawling. Pleasing fragrance.		
GLORIANA	.....		1.00
	Not yet rated and not well known but a very good pink.		
GOLDEN HARVEST	.....	7.8	.40
	Double; large; midseason. Good blush shade. Strong Grower.		
GRACE BATSON	.....		1.00
	This is a deep pink and a good one.		
GROVER CLEVELAND	.....	8.2	.40
	Large; red; late midseason.		
HAZEL KINNEY	.....	9.0	1.00
	Large, double, midseason. Flesh-pink with broad petals.		
JAMES KELWAY	.....	8.7	.40
	Very large, early mid-season peony, opening pink and turning white. Fine for cutting.		
JEANNOT	.....	9.2	1.00
	Large; double; late. Beautiful waxy rose-pink petals slightly deeper in center. Medium growing with strong wiry stems. Good foliage and exquisite fragrance.		
JOHN M. GOOD	.....	9.3	1.50
	Large; double; late midseason. Outer petals pale pink shading to ivory center; yellowish cast in depths of the bloom. Tall and vigorous.		

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX
ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID

PEONIES (CONTINUED)

	VARIETY	Rating.	Ea.
JUBILEE	Very large; double; midseason. Immense white blooms with a greenish tinge. Prolific.	8.9	.75
JUNE DAY	Large, double, midseason. Old rose-pink with lighter outer petals.	9.0	.75
KARL ROSENFELD	Red, large flower, blooms in mid-season. This is not the ordinary red but has a light touch of crimson. A reliable bloomer. Does not open well when cut in bud.	8.8	.40
KELWAY'S GLORIOUS	Very large, double, midseason. Creamy-white, crimson streaks.	9.8	1.00
LADY ALEXANDER DUFF	Large, double, midseason. Blush-pink blooms in clusters.	9.1	.75
LADY KATE	Large, double, late. Solid light pink color. Tall grower with strong stems. Long blooming season.	8.7	1.00
LAURA DESSERT	Anemone type. The outer petals of white with center of canary yellow, considered to be nearest to a yellow peony. Early.	8.8	1.00
LA PERLE	Large; double; midseason. One of the really good lilac-white varieties. Center is slightly darker, flaked with red. Fragrant.	8.5	.40
LILLIAN GUMM	Very large, deep rose-pink flower; a real beauty and blooms in mid-season. Fine for cut flowers.	8.8	.50
LONGFELLOW	Large, crimson flowered peony blooming in mid-season. Free-flowering and very showy as cut flowers.	9.0	.75
LORA DEXHEIMER	Bright crimson. We consider this one of the very best of the reds and when it is better known should be very popular. Blooms in mid season. Fine for cut flowers. Free bloomer.	8.4	.40
LORCH	Large pure snow white outer petals with center petals lemon and cream with rose fragrance. When well grown is a beautiful flower. Midseason.	8.7	.75
MABEL L. FRANKLIN	Very large, double, midseason. Center bright pink. Fragrant.	9.0	1.00
MARIE CROUSSE	Very large double; midseason. Pale pink shaded deeper at center with glowing sheen. Free blooming and good stems.	8.9	.75
MARIE KUNDERD	Large, double, late midseason. Nice size blooms of pure white. Free bloomer; vigorous grower.		.50
MARIE LEMOINE	Very large; double; blooms late. Lemon-white with trace of crimson on few petals. Fragrant.	8.5	.50
MARY BRAND	Dark clear crimson. Free-flowering midseason peony and where quantities of red flowers are wanted, this is excellent to have.	9.0	.50
MARY W. SHAYLOR	Very large, double, late. Flesh-white, crimson flecks.	9.0	.75
MAUD L. RICHARDSON	Light rose-pink, blooming very late. Very free-flowering and fine for cut flowers opening well for a late bloomer. Very fragrant.	8.5	.50
MESSONIER	Double type. Medium, midseason. Color, red. Good foliage. A low rated peony, but a good light crimson.	6.5	.40
MINNIE SHAYLOR	Large, semi-double; mid-season. Clear light pink with golden anthers. Good grower.	8.9	.50
MILLE. LEONIE CALOT	Double type. Small to medium. Late midseason. Flesh pink, darkening somewhat in the center. Medium height drooping stems. Good foliage.	8.1	.60

STRONG 3 TO 5 EYE DIVISIONS

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

PEONIES (CONTINUED)

VARIETY	Rating.	Ea.
MME. DE VATRY Double type. Large mid season. Color very light pink, it develops a high crown as the flowers age.	7.7	.50
MME. EMILE CALLE Large; double, late. Translucent light rose-pink; rose fragrance.	8.5	.50
MME. CAUDICHAU Double; medium sized blooms; late mid-season. Dark crimson with blackish sheen. Foliage and stems red throughout season.	8.2	.40
MME. EMILE LEMOINE Double type. Large, midseason. Opens with crimson streaks on outer petals, fading to a creamy white. Tall free blooming strong stems and good foliage.	8.9	1.00
MME. JULES DESSERT Extremely large; double; late. An outstanding and lovely peony. Long, smooth, flesh-white petals and a peculiar golden sheen in the center. Tall strong stems and good foliage. Experts rank this among the best dozen	9.4	.75
MME. DE VERNEVILLE Medium size; double; early. Blush white, sometimes with slight lemon cast. Free flowering.	7.9	.50
MODESTE GUERIN Dark rose pink. Sometimes called American Beauty peony on account of resemblance to American Beauty Rose. Excellent early peony.	7.8	.40
MONS. JULES ELIE Very large, double, early. Light rose-pink. Free-flowering. Dark satiny sheen.	9.2	.40
MONS. MARTIN CAHUZAC This is the darkest red peony which we have. Blooms in early mid-season and very free-flowering. Dark satiny sheen.	8.8	.75
MRS. C. S. MINOT Very large, double, late. Flesh-pink with copper tint.	9.2	1.00
MRS. EDWARD HARDING Large, double, midseason. White with golden stamens.	9.3	.50
MRS. JOHN M. LEWIS Large, dark crimson and blooms in midseason. Very symmetrical.	8.2	.50
MYRTLE GENTRY Large, double, late. Rosy white with salmon tints. Sturdy stems.	9.1	1.50
NINA SECOR Medium, double, mid-season. Pure white with yellow glow, red flecked.	9.0	1.00
NYMPHAE Double type. Large midseason. Color, creamy white, flushed pale rose pink. Medium height, profuse bloomer, stiff stems. Good foliage.	8.8	.75
OFFICINALIS RUBRA The old fashioned peony of your grandmother's garden. Always in bloom at Decoration Day in this climate. Bright red.		1.00
OPAL Large double; midseason. Rose-pink with long pointed petals. Free blooming and good foliage.	8.5	.75
PAULINE KUNDERD Large, semi-dwarf, midseason. Pure white with lacy petals in crown shape. Novelty peony.		.75
PHILOMELE Anemone type. Medium size. Early. Dark old rose with buff petals. A very good cut flower because of the smallness of the blooms and the striking tri-color effect. Average height, strong stems and good foliage.	7.7	.60
PHILIPPE RIVOIRE Medium, double, mid-season. Very deep crimson with blackish glow.	9.2	1.00
PHOEBE CARY Pale old rose pink. Very late, double type, profuse bloomer. A good peony of good color and no serious fault.	8.8	.75
PHYLLIS KELWAY Very large; semi-double; midseason. Rose-pink with lighter center. Good stems.	9.0	1.25
PRESIDENT WILSON Very large; double; late. Bright rose-pink with darker center.	9.3	1.00
PRIMEVERE Anemone type. The outer petals white with center lemon yellow, similar to Laura Dessert but not as fine a flower. Midseason.	8.6	.60

PEONIES (CONTINUED)

	VARIETY	Rating.	Ea.
RACHEL	Late free flowering red. Not very large bloom but	8.3	.40
REINE HORTENSE	brilliant color. Flowers have excellent keeping qualities. We cannot say too much about Reine Hortense. It is a very large pink, rather flat bloom and free-flowering. Considered one of the very best of cut flower varieties. Blooms in mid-season.	8.7	.40
RICHARD CARVEL	The earliest of the red peonies of Chinese type to bloom. It is one of the very best of reds and it is very excellent for cut flowers.	8.8	.50
ROSE SHAYLOR	Pale pink, tall, strong-flowering with stiff stems. Excellent for cutting. Mid-season.	9.1	1.00
RUBRA SUPERBA	Double type. Color crimson. Blooms medium size. Foliage good. Medium height. A very old variety much used for massed landscape planting.	7.2	.40
SARAH BERNHARDT	Very large; double; late. Dark rose-pink. Strong stems. Free flowering.	9.0	.50
SOLFATARE	One of the older but still good whites. Large double blooms come in midseason and are excellent in mixed beds. Free bloomer.	7.6	.40
SOLANGE	Large double, late. Creamy-white suffused with buff and salmon.	9.7	1.00
SOUVENIR DE LOUIS BIGOT	Large; double; midseason. Vivid pink, shell-pink center. Strong erect stems.	9.1	.75
THERESE	Very large; double; midseason. Enormous size. Rose-pink with golden glow.	9.8	1.00
TOURANCELLE	Large; double; late. Creamy-white suffused with tan and flesh-pink.	9.4	.50
W. F. CHRISTMAN	Double; large; mid-season. Flesh white suffused with faint pink. Fragrant and free flowering.	8.8	.50
WALTER FAXON	Medium; double, midseason. Bright shell-pink with luminous glow.	9.3	.40
WINNIFRED DOMME	A small flower, blooms in mid-season. Has a very distinctive color, almost as dark as Mons Martin Cahuzac and really a most desirable peony.	8.3	.50

ORIENTAL PEONIES

GYPSY	Dark wine-red, blooms in mid-season and of medium size.	8.0	.40
MIKADO	Dull crimson, of medium size, blooms in mid-season. Free flowering.	8.6	.40
MRS. WALTER BREWSTER	Abundant bloomer. Color a good rose-pink.	8.0	.50
PRINCE ITO	Much like Fuyajo but slightly darker and several days later. Does not fade so much.		1.00
TORO-NO-MAKI	Blush white, very large blooms in midseason and fairly free-flowering.	9.0	1.00
YELLOW KING	One of the very best of the newer Oriental peonies. Pale-pink.		\$1.25

SINGLE PEONIES

THE BRIDE	Pure white, early blooms and large. Very free flowering	8.4	.40
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OUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee these peonies to be true to name. Notify us any time within two years after purchase of any not true to name and we will replace them without charge.

THE WORLD'S HIGHEST RATED

PEONIES

AT RICHARDS' MONEY SAVING PRICES

From our list of Peonies we have selected 26 of the best, all rating 9.0 or better, as listed below:

These are unquestionably the aristocrats of the Peony world. All grown from one, two and three year old stock; the finest roots money can buy.

ALICE HARDING
A. M. SLOCUM
BARONESS SCHROEDER
FESTIVA MAXIMA
ROSE SHAYLOR
GEORGIANA SHAYLOR
KELWAY'S GLORIOUS
LADY ALEXANDER DUFF
JUNE DAY
LONCFELLOW
MABEL L. FRANKLIN
HAZEL KINNEY
MARY W. SHAYLOR

MONS. JULES ELIE
MRS. C. S. MINOT
MRS. EDWARD HARDING
MYRTLE GENTRY
NINA SECOR
PHILIPPE RIVOIRE
PRESIDENT WILSON
SARAH BERNHARDT
SOLANGE
SOUVENIR DE LOUIS BIGOT
THERESE
TOURANCELE
WALTER FAXON

SPECIAL PEONY OFFER NUMBER ONE

One of each of the 26 supreme peonies described; all strong 3 to 5 divisions. A real \$25.45 value, postpaid to your door at Richards' Low Price of only.....**\$18.00**

SPECIAL PEONY OFFER NUMBER TWO

Your choice of any 12 peonies from this list of the World's Outstanding varieties, postpaid for only.....**\$10.00**

SPECIAL PEONY OFFER NUMBER THREE

Your choice of any five of the superb peonies, postpaid for only.....**\$5.00**

SPECIAL ONE-DOLLAR PEONY OFFER

One Sarah Bernhardt, rose pink; one Mary Brand, dark brilliant crimson; one Mrs. Edw. Harding, white and gold—three wonderful peonies postpaid for only.....**\$1.00**

SPECIAL: 5 MIXED PEONIES \$1.00

We will select 5 peonies, our choice, in balanced colors for only one dollar. These will not be labelled but will all be good varieties, 3 to 5 eye divisions. Just the bargain you've been looking for to plant a large bed or for a peony hedge.

FREE PEONIES

With each order for **OFFER NO. 1** at \$18 we will include **FREE 1 Felix Crousse**, rated 8.4 bright red, midseason, double; and **1 Mary Brand** rated 8.7, dark crimson with bright sheen, midseason, double.

With each order for **OFFER NO. 2** received we will include **FREE 1 Mary Brand** as described above.

With each order for **OFFER NO. 3** received we will include **FREE 1 Felix Crousse** as described above.

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

GARDEN FRUITS

RICHARDS GARDENS

STRAWBERRY PLANTS

To help you make your gardens practical and fruitfull, as well as beautiful, we are this year offering Strawberry Plants for Spring planting only. We offer three of the most satisfactory and most popular varieties.

PREMIER

A money-making, frost-proof strawberry; hardy, productive, very beautiful and attractive. Succeeds everywhere never fails to produce a big crop every year. There is a greater demand for Premier plants for commercial planting than for any other early variety. An excellent shipper and canner. Sells for fancy prices on the market.

25 for 50c; 100 for \$1.25 postpaid

SENATOR DUNLAP

Perhaps no other strawberry is so favorably known throughout the country generally as the old reliable Senator Dunlap. It enjoys the distinction of producing full crops in a wider range of soil and climate than almost any other variety. Fine for both home and commercial uses.

25 for 50c; 100 for \$1.25 postpaid

"GEM"

THE MODERN EVERBEARER

The Last Degree in Strawberry Perfection for Size, Color, Flavor and Productivity.

A mouthful of melting, flavorful Strawberry deliciousness. The New Gem holds those qualities from the first spring ripening until cold weather, never getting that "grassy" flavor common to other varieties. Fruit is very large and uniform from the first picking until the last. So firm that it will stand an unusual amount of handling and hauling. Very hardy, resistant to drought and leaf-blight. Good plant makers on any soil. Produces large crop the first season.

25 for 60c; 100 for \$1.50 postpaid

ASPARAGUS

"MARY WASHINGTON"

The first vegetable to come up in the spring garden. The Mary Washington variety stands supreme for its growing habits and delightful flavor. 100 roots will supply the average family and will last for years. Set 10 inches apart in rows. Spread the roots out in the bottom of the holes and tamp soil firmly. Plant so that there is about 2 inches of soil over the crowns of the plants.

25 roots for \$1.00 postpaid

100 roots for \$3.50 postpaid

"PARADISE"

A new asparagus of great promise. Strong, quick, grower and may be cut a year sooner than Mary Washington. Excellent flavor and flesh is exceedingly tender.

25 roots for only \$1.50 postpaid

100 roots for only \$5.00 postpaid

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID

Chicago, Ill., April 7, 1942

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sirs: Received my plants to-day. Wish to thank you for same, as plants are wonderful. Must give you credit for your system of packing.—Fred Reigel.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR PLANTS IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL



For shipping, our plants are packed in peat with Whale-hide waterproof paper. When you unpack them, if you are not ready to plant them in their permanent places, and wish to hold them for two or three days, it is a good idea to pour a small quantity of water down through the top of the package so that this peat can be moistened. After this treatment, your plants should keep fresh for several days. If, however, they are not to be planted within two or three days, it is best to take them out of the package and heel them in until such time as you are ready to plant them where they are to grow. These plants are large enough so that it is not necessary to put them in cold frames or in pots until they are ready to be planted in their permanent places.

HOW TO GROW BEAUTIFUL DELPHINIUMS SUCCESSFULLY

Delphinium are easy to grow. They should have a good rich soil as they are known as gross feeders. Cow manure is the best. If this is not obtainable, get a small quantity of peat for each plant. This should be supplemented with a small quantity of lime to offset the acidity of the peat, as they like an alkaline soil. As a commercial fertilizer, we recommend Vigoro, or a similar brand, to be fed in small quantity every two weeks. This should be worked into the soil and well watered.

Delphinium is sometimes subject to the fungus diseases. However, it is not difficult to eliminate these diseases if taken in time. When the foliage starts, dust or spray with Bordeaux mixture. This should be done at frequent intervals to take care of the new growth of the foliage.

In the event that Delphinium have been grown on the same soil in years previous, or you have experienced trouble with these fungus diseases, it is well to treat the soil with a solution of formaldehyde. The directions for using this disinfectant are usually found on the wrapper. Also, be sure that all old foliage has been carefully cleaned from the bed and burned.

In planting Delphinium, the soil should be opened with a trowel, the roots carefully spread out and soil well firmed around them. It is a very good idea to put a handful of peat in the opening right around the roots. Also, be careful not to cover the crown with more than one-half inch of soil. After the plant has come in full bloom, it may be cut off close to the ground, then new shoots will start and you will have a very nice second crop in a short time.

HOW TO PLANT PEONIES

Peonies are heavy feeders and should be planted in soil which has been thoroughly prepared by deep spading and the addition of well rotted manure or good commercial fertilizer.

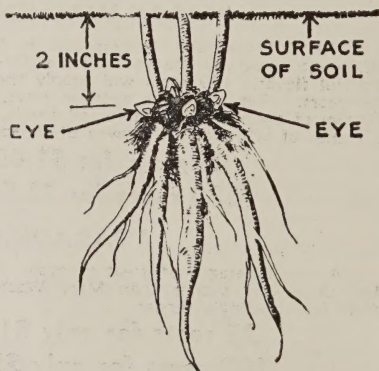
Peonies should be planted with eyes NOT MORE THAN TWO INCHES below surface of the soil.

Most of the trouble that gardeners experience in not having their peonies bloom comes from planting too deep.

Have holes generously large to accommodate the roots. Sift in finely pulverized soil around roots until nearly covered, and then fill hole with water and allow to settle. This eliminates any air pockets. Fill in balance of earth to proper depth as shown in drawing and pack firmly.

Peonies planted in this manner will seldom fail to grow and bloom the following year.

Well rotted manure applied as a mulch in late fall and then worked into the soil the following spring will help promote luxuriant growth and blooms.



Planning YOUR Perennial Garden



The number of perennials which may be grown in your garden is limitless, so far as variety is concerned. How many you grow and what varieties you grow will depend entirely upon your interest in perennials and your likes and dislikes for coloring, etc.

The present trend in perennial growing is to grow a number of different sorts in informal beds or along the shrub border and include only a few which are classed as rare plants. Perennials, or plants which live for more than one year, are very essential on the grounds of anyone who likes color all through the different seasons. They may be planted in beds, in wide borders, in front of shrubs, around a pool, and the lower growing or dwarf sorts are widely used for rock garden planting. They may be planted in rows in a small garden for cutting purposes. They may be used singly but it is recommended that they be planted in clumps or groups of from three to twelve plants of a kind, as a mass of color is much more effective.

Most perennials need a sunny location although some varieties will grow in semi-shade. Perennials should be kept well away from the roots of trees as they rob them of food and moisture. Be sure that the bed or ground that you are going to plant perennials in is well drained, as perennials will not stand a lot of water remaining upon the surface of the ground for long periods of time. The soil should be made loose to a depth of 1½ to 2 feet, with a plentiful supply of fertilizer thoroughly mixed into the ground when it is spaded up. If the soil is clay that becomes extremely hard during the summer season it would be well to throw out the top six or eight inches of soil and mix with this a liberal amount of peat moss or other commercial humus before putting it back into the bed and proceeding with the planting. Perennials like a porous soil in which they can throw out their roots. The soil in which perennials are planted should be kept rich at all times. Many of the plants are shallow rooted and are not able to send out their roots in search of new food supply.

Perennials may be planted in the fall as well as in the spring with certain exceptions. Iris should be planted any time during early spring or fall. Peonies are best planted in September or April. Oriental Poppies are dormant in late August and should be transplanted at that time. Otherwise perennials can be planted as other nursery stock, either spring or fall. When the plants are received from the nursery, unpack and plant them at once if possible. Those which cannot be planted at once should be heeled in moist soil and kept well watered, both roots and tops.

In planting a perennial planting, lay out the space you have available for them on a piece of paper and spot in the taller growing sorts for background. Then select the plants for the border and jot them on your layout. Fill in with the medium tall growing sorts in the center of the bed. Select and plant for color display so that you do not have two kinds of perennials with the same color of blossoms beside each other. Color variation in a perennial bed is essential.

Many types of perennials will do better if frequently transplanted, that is, about every third year. This is especially true of the Coreopsis, Gaillardias, Shasta Daisies and other varieties which have dense foliage just above the ground. The plants should be removed from the bed and torn into several divisions, and these divisions replanted, the same as new plants. Iris also does better if transplanted occasionally.

There are only a few simple rules necessary to the successful growing of perennials and may be summed up as follows:

Good, well drained, rich soil in a sunny location.

Plant with crown or eye of plant just barely below ground level.

Plenty of cultivation of beds to keep the soil loose and mellow.

Keep the beds thoroughly soaked during dry weather.

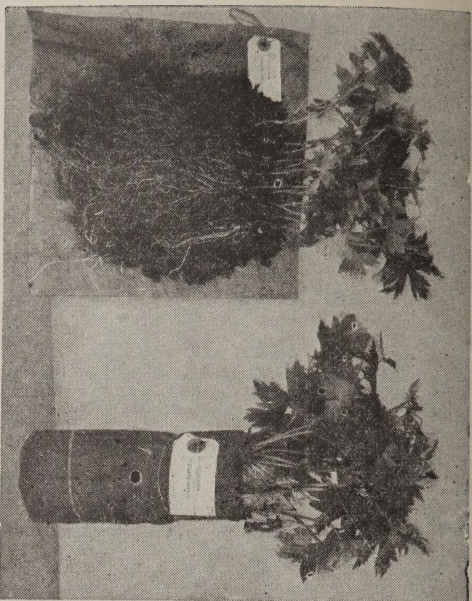
Frequent fertilization to produce best growth and bloom.

Keep blooms cut off as they begin to fade and the blooming season of all sorts of perennials will be greatly lengthened.

A few wood ashes worked into the soil around Delphiniums is advisable for best growth and bloom.

In climatic and soil conditions where the ground heaves with winter freezing and thawing the beds should be thoroughly mulched in late fall.

If these simple rules are followed and proper care is exercised in selecting the varieties for your plantings, there is no reason why the average gardener should not be a successful grower of perennials and enjoy their beauty all through the season.



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